

ALBERTA ROCKHOUND NEWS

Publication of the Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs



Volume 48 No. 1

April, 2018

President's Message



Greetings from the Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs (AFRC)

Are all you rock hounds having fun in this wonderful winter wonderland? It is spring now but I keep hearing people saying it is day 103, 104 etc. of January. We must be in the middle of some very important historical event.

On April 15th the directors for the AFRC held their spring meeting on a nice spring day. Not surprisingly the meeting was delayed a week because of a bad snow storm. This is not the first time this has happened so part of the meeting was a discussion on having some of our meetings done by teleconference calls.

Some club members have to travel many hours to get to a meeting so this may help us avoid bad road conditions, during our extra long winters!

May Daze is coming up soon, May 18, 19, and 20th. The Calgary Rock & Lapidary Club has it all organized and almost ready to go. A hall has been rented in Delecour, north east of Calgary. The info for May Daze will be in this newsletter. Thanks to the Calgary club for hosting this year's May Daze. May Daze is the yearly get together of all the rock clubs in the province and clubs take turns to host it. When you get to May Daze don't be shy to ask if you can help out with the initial set up, planned activities or clean up afterwards. There are field trips, demonstrations, the rock auction and the AGM planned for May Daze. The rock auction already has 175 lots booked, out of 200. So if you need more rocks or need to sell some, here's your chance!

At our directors meeting we also accepted the Grand Prairie Rock & Lapidary Club as a new member of the Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs. This is the first time in a long time that a new rock club has formed in Alberta. Welcome Grand Prairie! An historical event. Hopefully some of the rock club members from Grand Prairie can come to May Daze. Lots of people like rocks, let's encourage more clubs to form.

One thing we can do as a club to promote lapidary and other aspects of our hobby, is send in articles to the Alberta Rock Hound News, about what our clubs do. This may include courses, field trips, or other club social events. Rock hunting field trips seem to be out of the question for much of the year; as I write this, it is snowing, again!

Some of us should be able to find a few rocks this year, after all, my 15 month old grandson found a pretty rock a couple of days ago on our driveway, in between the snow storms, just for Grandpa! Thank you, my first rock for the year. Another historical event.

Enjoy the summer everyone!

ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS

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Vice-Pres: Leola Grams sachilives@gmail.com

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Editor: Ed & Pauline Zeschuk epz@shaw.ca (780) 430-6694

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Calgary CRLC: Shelley Gibbins sapphire13@shaw.ca

Edmonton Tumblewood: Heather Strachan (780) 991 4966 strachan.heather@gmail.com

Lacombe Lapidary Club: (403) 782-4769 ronbiel@platinum.ca

Medicine Hat Rock & Gem: Kiwanis Centre, 826-11 St. S.E. Medicine Hat, AB (403) 527-0068

Southern Alberta Rockhounds: Kendra Grams

OBJECTIVES OF THE ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS

1. To promote and encourage the study, cutting, polishing and engraving of gemstones and rocks and other geological materials and lapidary work as a hobby other than for the purpose of trade, industry or business.
2. To encourage the exploration of Alberta for lapidary materials, and to promote and create a greater interest in Alberta finished and unfinished rocks and minerals.
3. To encourage and promote the close association with, and exchange of information between rock hobbyists and lapidary groups to stimulate interest in and disseminate knowledge about mineralogy and earth sciences.
4. The Alberta Federation sponsors a website which its members may use to promote the activities and events of their club.
5. The operations of the Alberta Federation are to be mainly carried out in the Province of Alberta, under the Canadian Rockhound Code of Ethics.

THE ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS is a member of THE GEM AND MINERAL FEDERATION OF CANADA. Each club pays their members dues to the AFRC Treasurer by February 1st and each paid up member is entitled to 3rd Party Liability Insurance which covers events such as field trips, rock and gem shows, and other organized events.

**ALBERTA
ROCKHOUND NEWS**

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This is your magazine. We need articles & suggestions. Send submissions anytime. If possible, send your article about two weeks before publication date to get them into the current month's publication. Otherwise the article will be included in the next publication.

ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS Directors Meeting, April 15, 2018

The Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs Directors meeting was held at the Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club, #13 3650-19 Street NE Calgary, AB, April 15, 2018, commencing at 10:40 am.

1. CONSIDERATION OF THE AGENDA: President Ron Biel called the meeting to order and asked if there were any corrections or additions to the agenda. It was noted that the dates in the header and in item #5 be corrected. Item #9.3 and #9.4 should actually read item #9.2 and #9.3. John Cherwonogrodzky moved to adopt the agenda with requested change. Seconded by Leola Grams. Carried.

2. ROLL CALL: Clubs present were the Edmonton

Tumblewood Lapidary Club, Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club, Lacombe Handicraft & Lapidary Guild, Medicine Hat Rock & Lapidary Club, Southern AB Rockhounds Association. There was no representation from the Calgary Faceters Guild.

3. MEMORIUM OR MOMENT OF SILENCE: None were observed as not aware of anyone passing.

4. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Ron Biel welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for accommodating the date change due to the weather.

5. THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 6, 2017 MEETING: emailed to all AFRC Directors and a few hard copies were passed out at the meeting. They were reviewed by all.

Errors noted:

Date of November meeting should read - November 5, 2017

Item #4 should read – Vice President, Leola Grams chaired meeting in Ron Biel's absence.

Item #6 should read – Leola Grams asked about availability of space for trailers....

Leola Grams motioned that minutes be adopted with corrections. Pauline Zeschuk seconded the motion. Carried.

6. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:

6.1 Directors & Officers Liability coverages. John Cheronogradzky is still persistently pursuing D&O coverages. Was working with McBurney's Insurance in BC but they have indicated to him that they cannot offer this particular coverage outside their province of BC. John will try other companies.

6.2 Updates on May Daze generated considerable discussion. C.R.L.C. member Cal Luchack attended our meeting to assist Mike O'Toole with the May Daze progress report.

- * Field trips – Big Hills Springs, Handhills Agate collecting and the Edworthy Park Sandstone Quarry are the collecting trips planned. You can find out more information on Big Hills and Edworthy Park in the Geological Book of Alberta that was published by the Provincial Museum in Edmonton.
The Mineral World Exhibition at the Glenbow is also on the schedule but it should be noted there will be a fee involved for that one for museum entrance.
- * Hall and Site rental have been attended to. C.L.R.C. will sort out the finances on this with John Cherwonogrodzky at a later date.
- * Cal Luchack requested any information about volunteers and meal planning etc that could be provided. Leola Grams sent him a copy of any email with some of this information from Lethbridge's recent hosting.
- * C.L.R.C. has reserved their lots for the May Daze auction. Based on that information, John Cherwonogrodzky now indicates there are 25 lot spaces available. All others have been assigned/designated based on email and phone requests.
- * There was once again discussion on limits to the number of total lots accepted for the May Daze auction as well as discussion on the total number of lots any one private seller can be assigned. After much debate the following motions were made to be effective starting in 2019:
 - 1) Kendra Grams motioned that due to time constraints, the total number of lots accepted (for AFRC, host club, and private sellers) be limited to 200. Even at 200, it makes for a long sale. This motion was seconded by Brett Jensen and carried.
 - 2) Brett Jensen motioned that the number of lots allotted to any one private seller be limited to 20. The only exception to this would be that in the event there are not 200 lots received for the year's sale. Then any additional lots would be available but Only at the end of the auction and only to the limit designated. This was seconded by Ed Zeschuk and the motion carried.
 - 3) Pauline Zeschuk motioned that private sellers be allowed to withhold their name and be allowed to sell their lots with name not declared. Others may wish to have their name assigned to the lot if they so choose. Declaration of the sellers will be at the discretion of the seller. Seconded by Leola Grams. Carried.
- * It was noted that in addition to the action recorders, there will be a courtesy desk like last year for those that wish to pay before the action is over.
- * John Cherwonogrodzky indicated that for the Annual General Meeting that is to occur at May Daze each club shall provide their current list of Delegates to the AFRC. (These delegates make up the sitting A.F.R.C.) If these could be emailed to John Cherwonogrodzky, it would be greatly appreciated.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

8. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

8.1 Treasurer's Report- John Cherwonogrodzky. A summary of finances was given to each attendee with hard copies of the full report for each of the President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary.

Membership cards were available to those clubs that had remitted their list and dues.

8.2 It was confirmed that the Medicine Hat Rock and Lapidary Club has possession of the travelling library and will bring it to the meeting at May Daze for any Club that wishes to have it for reference. The status of the Momento is being determined. It is believed that Darek Nowicki may know where it is located but he was unable to be in attendance today. Further research and tracking is being done.

May Daze signs are also being tracked. Kendra Grams from the Southern Alberta Rockhounds will advise.

8.3 GMFC. Not much new to report as the annual meeting has not been held yet. There should be a meeting later this month.

8.4 Alberta Rockhound News was a little late and a little small due to some delays with minutes and messages from last AFRC meeting. Ed Zeschuk also calling for content assistance from the Clubs. Please let him know what we are doing.

9. NEW BUSINESS.

9.1 Grande Prairie Alberta now has a new Rock Club.

The Grande Prairie Rock and Lapidary Club has requested membership to the A.F.R.C. They have generated approximately 50 members. Good going for a new club.

A motion was put forth by Pauline Zeschuk that we accept the new Grande Prairie Club into the AFRC. Seconded by Tony Cave and carried.

9.1.1 Due to the acceptance of this new Club, it was put forth by Ron Biel that we consider other options for some of our meetings. Calgary is no longer "central" to all Clubs. Please ponder: teleconferencing/skype options, alternating meeting locations, date changes/flexibility due to weather and other option so we may discuss at the next meeting. Clubs may need to consider tech savvy members if we choose to meet via internet or phone.

9.2 Planning for the 2019 May Daze in Medicine Hat is ongoing.

9.3 Volunteers for May Daze 2020. It was suggested for northern part of the province. Perhaps the new Grande Prairie Club.

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership Cards are available for 4 Clubs. John Cherwonogrodzky will distribute.

Annual Calgary Show is set for the first weekend in May. Promo cards were given to each club to take back for distribution (May 4-6, 2018)

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm

NEWS FROM LACOMBE CLUB

WOW!! Another year has gone by...we've had a busy year. Last year our club had decided to have classes to encourage new members and keep our club active....It Worked.

We kicked off our year with an 8-10 week beginner silver smithing class. We had a total of 15 sign up. Our instructors were Doug S. and Ron B. It was a big hit and carried over the rest of the year.



We started out from making jump rings to soldering them...then to making a back and a bezel for a cabochon and soldering that together.

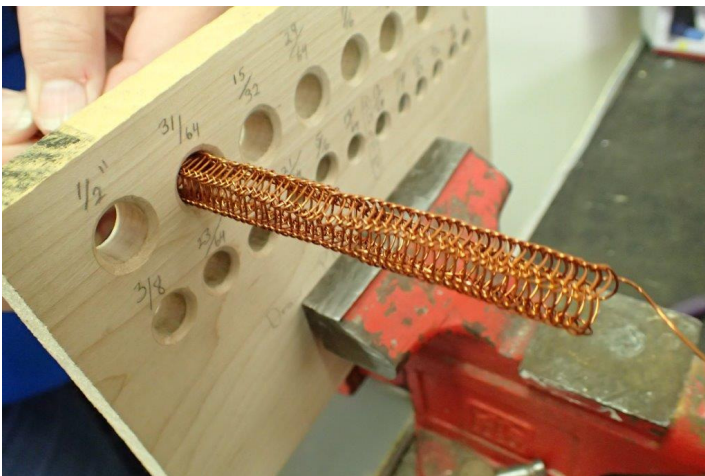


Our next class started in Feb. A 5 week class...it was a beading class using "tila" beads...our instructor Carolyn Cave. We had 11 students up for this one. We were shown how to bead around a cabochon and make a matching necklace to go along with it....one of our members beaded around a black and yellow fish hook...made it into a key chain.





Our final class is a viking knot class (a 3 week class) and incorporating beads with it... We had 11 take that class. Instructors: Ron B.; Carolyn C.; and Trish D.



All in all a great year.....see you all at may Daze 2018

Bev C. reporting !!



58th CRLC Gem, Mineral and Fossil Show

Mark your calendar. It's only 4 weeks before our big show on May 4-6, 2018.

This year, another record with 57 awesome dealers in the Vivo arena, including 8 new dealers! Check out our list of dealers and view our floor plan at crlc.ca/show.

And something special for the kids; free sapphire mining! We brought hundreds of these little gems in from Montana.

One of the largest rock and gem shows in Western Canada!

- Dealers, Hourly Door Prizes, Silent Auction, and more
- Demonstrations: faceting, gemology, identification, metal clay
- For sale: Minerals, Crystals, Rough Rock, Jewellery, Tools/Equipment

Check out some of our dealer posts on our [Facebook site](#).

This 58th annual show is a major fundraiser for The Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club and is Calgary's only gem show operated by a non-profit organization.

Location: VIVO For Healthy Generations
[11950 Country Village Link NE](#)
Calgary, Alberta

Hours

May 4-6, 2018
Friday: 1pm – 9pm
Saturday: 10am – 6pm
Sunday: 10am – 5pm

Admission

(cash only)
Adults: \$7 (3 days \$10)
Seniors/Students: \$5 (3 days \$7)
Children (12 & under): Free

FOR THE NEW MEMBERS TO THE LAPIDARY CLUBS HERE IS INFORMATION ON AN EVENT KNOWN AS AFRC (ALBERTA FEDERATION OF ROCK CLUBS) MAY DAZE

Every May long weekend the AFRC holds its annual meeting and much more which has become to be known as May Daze. There is sharing of technical hobby information, an opportunity to participate in field trips, acquire machines and rocks through an auction or tailgating and meet other like minded people from clubs across the province. Both members of clubs and general public (nonmembers) are welcome to participate in the event.

On Friday people begin arriving with their trailers, motor homes and tents. Each hall facility has its own rules and regulations. This year there is a camping fee for the parking lot trailers but no overnight camping on Sunday night. Others rent rooms at nearby motels. Friday is mostly to get accommodations settled, set up the hall and prepare rocks and other items for the auction. A barbecue of hamburgers and condiments will be made available at nominal cost per person. After the BBQ meal the people meet in the hall for socializing and exchanging lapidary stories.

Saturday is filled with a variety of activities. A few activities such as fieldtrips are preplanned. Others are volunteers who demonstrate their skills and pass along tips to beginners. Some ad hoc workshops may be pleasant surprises. Display cases provide information about materials and members' activities. Some choose to enjoy coffee and visit for part of the time. A potluck is served about 5:30 pm. The Rock Auction is the main attraction on Saturday evening. The auction items are rocks and anything related to the hobby. Some of the auction items are donated. Other items are consigned with 15% of the selling price going to the AFRC and the consignee receiving 85%. The auction takes place on Saturday after the potluck supper.

Sunday begins with a complementary pancake breakfast. The annual general AFRC meeting begins at 10:00 am. and lasts for an hour or more. Although everyone may contribute to the discussion at the meeting, only paid up club members are allowed to vote on the motions. The remains of the potluck makes up the Sunday noon buffet. The food seems to taste even better on the second day. After lunch tailgating takes place either inside the hall at the tables, or outside selling out of the back of the truck or the trunk of the car. The AFRC asks that all tailgaters donate 10% of their sales to the club using the honour system. The last item on Sunday's agenda is clean up and leaving the hall in its original condition.

If you plan to stay for the pot luck meal on Saturday night, bring an item of food for everyone to share. Stoves, refrigeration, etc is available. The food you bring will be shared both on Saturday night and also on Sunday noon. **Remember to bring your own cutlery, plates, cups, drinks, etc.**

All members of the Alberta lapidary clubs are invited and encourage to come and participate in this great event which is specifically geared to them. You may also bring your friends so that they can get to see how much fun it is to belong to a lapidary club!!

On page 6 is the information for the 2018 May Daze. It will be a great event this year as in the past!!



Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs

presents

55th Annual May Daze

18-20 May 2018

hosted by

Calgary Rock and Lapidary Club

To be held at the

Delacour Community Hall



Schedule Friday May 18, 2018	
Time	Activity
3:00 PM	Hall set up – Feel free to show up before 6:00 PM but if you do, don't be surprised if you are put to work.
6:00 PM	Meet and Greet Barbecue – Menu: Burgers with salads
	Fundraising Activities/ Events – Sales of 50/50 Draw Tickets, Door Prize, Sale of cut stones, rough Etc. from CRLC.
	AFRC Sign-in Book
	Register items for AFRC Fundraising Auction, set items up for preview.
	Sign up for Field Trips.
7:30 PM	Final Hall Set up – Contact Cal Luchuck if you wish to help
8:00 PM	Fire Pit if Available depending on Hall and any local fire restrictions
11:00 PM	Hall Closed for the night – get rested up for Saturday's activities.

Schedule
Saturday May 19, 2018

Time	Activity
7:30 AM	Hall reopens, Start Coffee brewing
9:00 AM	Sign-up for Trips and Events Register items for AFRC Fundraising Auction, set items up for preview.
9:30 AM	Field Trip - CRLC Lapidary and Jewellery Workshop Tour
	Field Trip - Hand Hills Agate -- Led by *** - Tentative on getting permission, finding leader – chalcedony, petrified wood
	Glen Bow Museum – Mineral World – Guide Yourself, museum fees apply.
	Big Hills Spring Provincial Park Hike and visit Tufa deposits Geological Wonders in Alberta Page 180 – Guide Yourself
	Edworthy Park Sandstone Quarry, Geological Wonders in Alberta Page 178– Guide Yourself
1:00-4:00 PM	Demonstrations—Workshops. Tentative-- Demonstrations by other club members?

Schedule
Saturday May 19, 2018 - cont.

Time	Activity
5:00 PM	Potluck Supper – Bring your own Dishes and Cutlery.
	Draw for 50/50 Prize, Door Prizes.
6:30 PM	AFRC May Daze Auction - Donations and Consignments
10:30 PM	Hall Clean up for the night
11:00 PM	Hall Closed for the night – get rested up for Sunday's activities.

Schedule Sunday May 20, 2018	
Time	Activity
7:30 AM	Hall reopens, Start Coffee brewing
08:30 AM	Pancake Breakfast
09:30 AM	Set up hall for AFRC General Meeting
10:00 AM	Alberta Federation of Rock Clubs Annual General Meeting
12:00 PM	Pot Luck Lunch
1:00 PM	Tail Gate Sales - in Hall and Parking Lot
3:00 PM	Hall Clean-up
5:00PM	Hall Closed.
NOTE	There is to be NO camping in the Hall Parking Lot Sunday night. There is a rental fee for each night of camping and that has not been arranged for Sunday night.

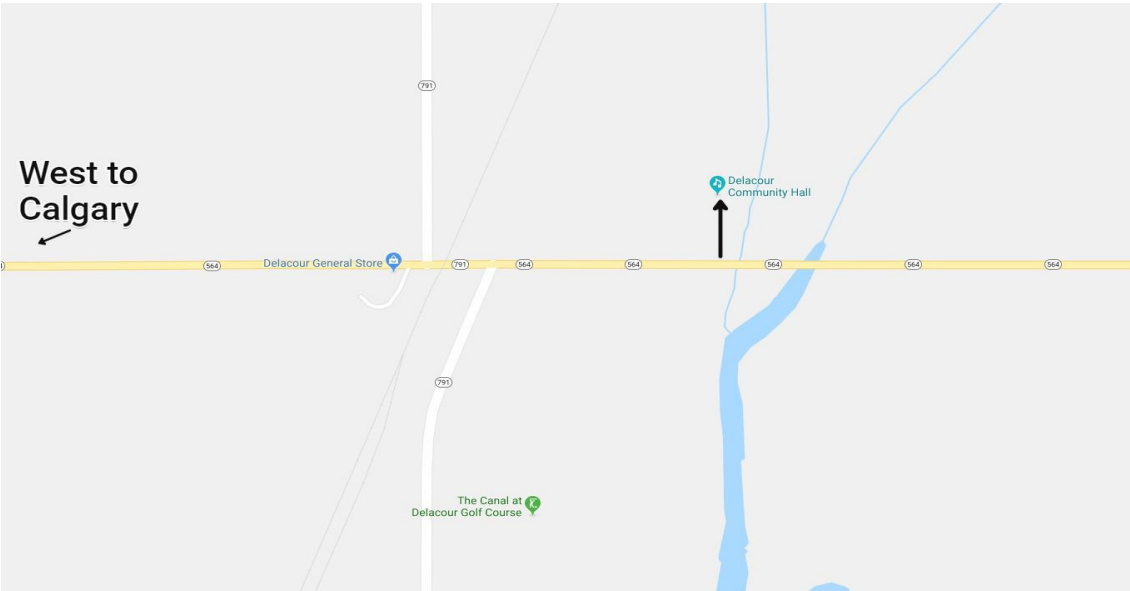
Notes

Coffee - will be available during the hours the Hall is open, please be patient when the hall opens each day, we will not have had our first coffee either.

Alcohol – We do not have a license to serve, nor should there be alcohol in the hall. What you do in the privacy of your RV or trailer is your business.

First Aid – There will be a number of First Aid kits on site and in vehicles. The following people have First Aid kits
Mike O'Toole (vehicle),

Map of Delacour showing the Community Hall Location



How to get to Delacour Community Hall

There is no street address published for the Delacour Hall but there is a Google Map link and a PDF of the location [here](#)

A Google Maps Link to the Hall is [here](#)

These directions are set up with the goal of following major routes and fewest turns. If you want to take a different route then go ahead.

Red Deer and further North:

Take the Queen Elizabeth II Highway (AB-2) south towards Calgary to the Stony Trail NE (AB-201 East) Exit
Take Stony Trail East to the intersection with Country Hills Boulevard. Follow the directions below for Stony Trail and Country Hills Boulevard Intersection.

From Lethbridge

Head north on AB-2 North and Stony Trail SE AB-201 North. Travel east and north on Stony Trail to Country Hills Boulevard, Follow the Stony Trail and Country Hills Boulevard directions immediately below.

From Stony Trail and Country Hills Boulevard Intersection

From Stony Trail NE (AB-201 East) and Country Hills Boulevard, head east approximately 11 km, after the intersection with AB-791 and crossing the train tracks the hall is on the left or north side of the road.

From Medicine Hat

Take TransCanada Highway AB-1 West towards Calgary. At the intersection with AB-9, head north approximately 13 km to AB-564/Country Hills Boulevard and turn left or west. Travel for approximately 6 km and the Hall is on the right or north side of the road. If you reach AB-791 you have passed the hall, turn around and head east, watch the north side of the road after you cross the train tracks. :-)

Listing of Hotels in the Area

Acclaim Hotel Calgary Airport

(403) 291-8000
123 Freeport Blvd NE, Calgary, AB T3N 0A3

Best Western Premier Freeport Inn & Suites

(403) 264-9650
86 Freeport Blvd NE, Calgary, AB T3J 5J9

Comfort Inn & Suites Calgary Airport North

(587) 349-7289
147 Freeport Cres NE, Calgary, AB T3J 0T3

Radisson Hotel & Conference Centre Calgary Airport

(403) 475-1111
6620 36 St NE, Calgary, AB T3J 4C8

Days Inn Calgary North Balzac

877-516-3297
292243 Wagon Wheel Rd, Balzac, AB T4A 0E2